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DA 16-402

MEDIA BUREAU ACTION

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FOURTH QUARTER 2015 INFLATION ADJUSTMENT FIGURES FOR CABLE OPERATORS USING FCC FORM 1240 NOW AVAILABLE

As described in the instructions for FCC Form 1240, cable operators may adjust the non-external cost portion of their rates for inflation based on quarterly figures released by the Federal Communications Commission. The fourth quarter 2015 inflation factor for operators using FCC Form 1240 is 0.87%.

The adjustment factor of 0.87% is a measure of the annualized change in prices occurring over the period from October 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015. All adjustments are based on changes in the Gross National Product Price Index (GNP-PI) published by the United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA). The Media Bureau obtained the chain-type price indices from the BEA news release dated March 25, 2016 (BEA 16-16) at Table 6 (Addenda: Gross National Product).

The inflation adjustment factor is calculated by dividing the GNP-PI for the fourth quarter of 2015 (110.376) by the GNP-PI for the third quarter of 2015 (110.138). The result of this calculation is converted from a quarterly change measurement factor to an annual change measurement factor by raising it to the fourth power.

Operators calculating the Inflation Factor for a True-Up Period which includes some portion of the fourth quarter of 2015 should enter the inflation factor on the appropriate lines of Worksheet 1 of FCC Form 1240 as "0.0087." Operators using this factor for calculating the Projected Period Inflation Segment of FCC Form 1240 should enter this number on Line C3 (January 1996 version), or Line C5 (July 1996 version) as "1.0087".

To date, the Commission has released eighty-two quarterly inflation factors for use with FCC Form 1240.

The following table lists these factors beginning in 2009:¹

Year	Quarter	Dates Covered	Inflation Factor
2009	First	Jan. 1, 2009 – Mar. 31, 2009	2.76%
2009	Second	Apr. 1, 2009 – Jun. 30, 2009	0.00%
2009	Third	Jul. 1, 2009 – Sep. 30, 2009	0.41%
2009	Fourth	Oct. 1, 2009 – Dec. 31, 2009	0.41%
2010	First	Jan. 1, 2010 – Mar. 31, 2010	1.08%
2010	Second	Apr. 1, 2010 – Jun. 30, 2010	1.08%
2010	Third	Jul. 1, 2010 – Sep. 30, 2010	2.09%
2010	Fourth	Oct. 1, 2010 – Dec. 31, 2010	0.41%
2011	First	Jan. 1, 2011 – Mar. 31, 2011	2.06%
2011	Second	Apr. 1, 2011 – Jun. 30, 2011	2.54%
2011	Third	Jul. 1, 2011 – Sep. 30, 2011	2.57%
2011	Fourth	Oct. 1, 2011 - Dec. 31,2011	0.89%
2012	First	Jan. 1, 2012 - Mar. 31, 2012	2.03%
2012	Second	Apr. 1, 2012 - Jun. 30, 2012	1.55%
2012	Third	Jul. 1, 2012 - Sep. 30, 2012	2.65%
2012	Fourth	Oct, 1, 2012 - Dec. 31, 2012	0.98%
2013	First	Jan.1, 2013 – Mar. 31, 2013	1.24%
2013	Second	Apr. 1, 2013 – Jun. 30, 2013	0.65%
2013	Third	Jul. 1, 2013 – Sep. 30, 2013	1.97%
2013	Fourth	Oct.1, 2013 – Dec. 31, 2013	1.56%
2014	First	Jan. 1, 2014 – Mar. 31, 2014	1.28%
2014	Second	Apr. 1, 2014 – Jun. 30, 2014	2.11%
2014	Third	Jul. 1, 2014 – Sep. 30, 2014	1.42%
2014	Fourth	Oct. 1, 2014 – Dec. 31, 1014	0.12%
2015	First	Jan. 1, 2015 – Mar. 31, 2015	-0.03%
2015	Second	Apr. 1, 2015 – Jun. 30, 2015	2.10%
2015	Third	Jul. 1, 2015 – Sep. 30, 2015	1.30%
2015	Fourth	Oct. 1, 2015 – Dec. 31, 2015	0.87%

The Commission releases a new quarterly inflation factor for operators using FCC Form 1240 four times each year. The inflation factor for a given quarter is usually released between three and four months after the end of the quarter, depending on the schedule of the Department of Commerce. The release of a new factor is posted on the Commission's Internet site at: http://www.fcc.gov/mb/csinflat.html.

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¹ For pre-2009 inflation figures see DA 09-1500 (rel. July 2, 2009), available at http://www.fcc.gov/mb/csinflat.html.